

REMARKS

Prior to a calculation of fees and a first examination of the continuation application filed herewith, please enter the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

I) Continuation Application

The application papers filed herewith are a true copy of the prior complete application filed on August 23, 2001 having Serial Number 09/939,413. Also enclosed is a supplemental declaration executed by the inventors and filed in patent application Serial Number 09/939,413.

This continuation application is filed under Rule 1.53(b) and claims the benefit of the Patent Application No. 09/939,413 filed August 23, 2001 under 35 U.S.C. 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a) which claims the benefit of Serial No. 60/313,232 and its filing date of August 16, 2001.

A clean copy of the specification, for the purpose of scanning for publication, is enclosed herewith in a "Transmittal of Amended Specification For Scanning Purposes" including the amendments to the specification and the cancellation of claims made herein.

II) Title

Applicant has amended the title to --FIBER OPTIC MODULES WITH DE-LATCHING MECHANISMS HAVING A PULL-ACTION--.

III) Specification

In the Cross-Reference to Related Applications section, on page 1, line 4, the paragraph therein has been deleted and a pair of new paragraphs have been inserted to update the priority claims to the related applications of this continuation patent application.

In Brief Description of the Drawings section, a brief description of Figures 4B, 4C, and 9A-9I has been added. The brief description of Figure 4 has been corrected to be a brief description of Figure 4A. The brief description of Figures 10A-10G has also been corrected.

In the Detailed Description section, at the end of the paragraph beginning on page 45, line 17, Applicant has added a sentence describing the pivot-arm actuator 2204' of Figure 29. Applicants note that the language of the amendment, describing the pivot-arm actuator 2204' (Figure 29), is identical (with exception of the reference numbers) to the description of the pivot-arm actuator 2204 (Figure 25) found in page 44, lines 1-3.

Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments to the specification have not added any new matter.

IV) Claims

Claims 1-80 were pending in the parent patent application.

Applicant has cancelled claims 9, 13-23, 26-49, 54-55, and 59-70 without prejudice in this preliminary amendment, as these claims are pending in other applications for examination on the merits or have been allowed.

Accordingly, claims 1-8, 10-12, 24-25, 50-53, 56-58, and 71-80 are now pending in this continuation application.

In the parent patent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/939,413, an Office Action was mailed on 06/19/03 rejecting the pending claims of this continuation patent application. In order to close prosecution of the allowed claims, these rejected claims were cancelled in the parent patent application.

The following are the prior art claim rejections:

On page 3 of the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 6, 10-12, 24-25, 50-53, 56-58, and 71-80 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,901,263 issued to Gaio, et al (Gaio) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,364,709 B1 issued to Jones (Jones).

On page 5 of the Office Action, Claims 4-5 and 7-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gaio in view of Jones and in further view of U.S. Patent 6,335,869 B1 issued to Branch, et al. (Branch).

Applicant intends to respond to these rejections in a supplemental response.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned counsel by telephone at (714) 557-3800 should there be any questions.

Please charge any shortage in fees in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 02-2666 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

Dated: March 9, 2004

William E. Alford
Reg. No. 37,764

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh
Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025
(714) 557-3800

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313 on: March 9, 2004.

On: March 9, 2004.

Susan McFarlane 3/9/04
Susan McFarlane Date